



**Chairman**  
John Takach

**Vice-Chairman**  
John Chandler

**Secretary**  
Rhonda Villanova

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187



RECEIVED  
OCT -3 AM 8:59  
ELLINGTON  
TOWN CLERK

**Members**  
Joe Boucher  
Ted C. Graziani  
Dennis Kayhart  
Robert King  
Sara Landon  
Cheryl Samborski  
Christian Sauer  
Bruce Warkentin

**Student Representatives**  
Anthony Chamberlin  
Steven Villanova

September 24, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m.

**In attendance:** Joe Boucher, John Takach, John Chandler, Rhonda Villanova, Steven Villanova, Christian Sauer, and Dennis Kayhart

### Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of last meeting minutes:** Chris 1<sup>st</sup>, John C. 2<sup>nd</sup>

Rhonda noted in her efforts to get more information regarding the POW/MIA chair ceremony at the library for the meeting minutes, she called the library to ask a couple questions. The person answering was under the impression the exhibit/tribute was placed by the Historical Society. Rhonda was surprised the employee did not know basic facts about the placing of the POW/MIA chair in the library.

**WAA:** WAA is scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup> at noon in the town center's cemetery. Cemetery Code is CTECCE/Group ID CT0039. John C. received the spreadsheet of burials. Dennis did a walk-thru of the cemetery with Joe's information from 2013 forward. He came up with 58 graves missing medallions. Some had flags but no indication of military service/or which military branch.

John T. reviewed the regulations for signs again as the committee was commenting on a Wreaths Across America sign brought in by Joe.

Steven started to create a mock-up of a sign to showcase information better based on feedback from the committee during the meeting to bring to Sign Connections for printing.

Dennis will ask Al Lewandoski of the American Legion re: clarifying prices/medallions/war-military branch. He also spoke to Joe Palombizio regarding cleaning the plaques on the stones. There is a Stamford company that would need the plaques sent to them and charge \$1300+. Beyond the Gravestone in Mansfield would be able to come and clean them where they are situated.

Joe B asked if the Scouts were queued up to get flags from the 4 cemeteries (main, Crystal Lake, Hall Memorial Library, and Charter) after Veteran's Day. John T said after November 11th, yes.

There was a discussion of ordering, along with the WAA signs, flyers to be placed around town for ordering wreaths for the WAA ceremony and notice of the ceremony. The decided number was 50 copies.

**New Business:** The delivery of the soldier statue is slated for mid-October. The committee will be in touch with Joe Palombizio to coordinate a ceremony of some kind.

John T presented a suggestion for the committee submitted by BettyJo O'Brien regarding the organization "Hometown Heroes". The organization puts up a banner (24" x 48") representing a "Hometown Hero" nominated or sponsored by people or groups in town. The fee is \$175 and the banner is placed in an appropriate area from Memorial Day to Veteran's Day. The sponsor would either pay the fee or solicit donations. The committee consensus was that with an all volunteer group that also volunteers for other committees and organizations, we did not have space in our schedules to oversee such a project at this time.

Joe B mentioned, due to the recent lack of 9/11 remembrance mentions or ceremonies, should the committee be holding some kind of remembrance? There was brief discussion by the committee and it will be addressed again at a later date.

**Motion to adjourn:** Joe B. 1st, Chris 2nd  
Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

**Next mtg:** October 22<sup>nd</sup>, location TBD (due to Town Hall construction)

Submitted by:  
Rhonda Villanova

Rhonda Villanova

Digitally signed by Rhonda Villanova  
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Date: 2019.10.02 16:16:40 -0400